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Attachments:

- a. Economic and Political Information on Poland, 7-24 September 1948
- b. Commercial and Political Information on Poland, 20 September - 2 October 1948
- c. Polish Collective Farming Prospects
- d. Economic and Political Information on Poland, 1-15 October 1948

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SQDB-12621 Attachment A

Economic and Political Information on Poland, 7-24 September 1948

1. Poland

Political Situation

a) The fusion between the PPR and PPS has reached its final stages. PPS former Political Bureau has undergone almost an entire personnel change. Of the more important individuals only CYRANKIEWICZ remains. Approximately 19% of all members have been removed, thus bringing to a close the almost 60 year reign of the PPS in Poland.

b) According to prevailing opinion Poland is now being governed by a triumvirate composed of BERMAN, MINC and ZAMBROWSKI. BIERUT is considered, in spite of being named General Secretary of the PPR, to be a marionette. The selection of BIERUT was made on the grounds of his Polish birth, is not true of the above three

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c) The government propaganda directed toward preparing for agricultural collectivization has caused disorders in some rural areas. The results of agitation toward "Sharpening the Class War" caused riots at Rejowice and Zamosc. Propertyless farm laborers attacked several farms, drove out the owners and then took over operation of the farm. Similar riots took place in the Wielun area. Here the farmers tried to protect themselves and 11 communists were killed.

d) The farmers' answer to the rumor of collectivization was to begin a wave of sabotage on a large scale. They immediately did away with their stock and kept only one cow for their own use. Cattle and hogs are being hidden in nearly inaccessible areas, as was the case during the German occupation. In connection with the above disturbances, the scarcity of products became immediately noticeable on the market, particularly regarding milk and butter. Due to the rumors of war the population has resorted to hoarding food and long queues outside the shops are not an uncommon sight. Certain articles, such as sugar, have completely disappeared from the market, in contrast to being plentiful several weeks previous.

e) Large supplies of food are being exported to Russia from Poland. It is said, "Entire trains loaded with food are moving toward the East".

Russian soldiers in the area also purchase as much as possible of the available food supply; they are particularly interested in lard and lard products. German railroad men transiting the area also purchase their food in Poland before returning to the Berlin area. Blackmarket dealers refuse to take Polish currency in payment for food-- payment now must be made in gold.

2. Terror and Reprisals

a) From the entire country come reports of the sharp increase in terror methods and activities of the UB. Approximately, as two years ago, every night brings about the arrest of some innocent persons. It is believed with such tactics the UB is attempting to create panic within the country. Those who are arrested disappear and no information as to whereabouts is given to the family. It is thought that many are deported directly to Germany. Arrests take place often among the PPR party members who possess the party's legitimation. The entire action appears to be organized by the Russian MVD, using the Polish UB organization as a necessary assistant.

b) A transit train carrying military material enroute to Germany was derailed at Chojnice. The accident was blamed to sabotage of an underground group. Two persons, who related the happening, were arrested.

c) Due to GOMULKA's heresy against the principle of farm collectivization the Politburo decided to postpone that action for several months and in the meantime direct their attention toward weakening the position of the church. It is understood there is difference of opinion which of the two actions should be inaugurated first. A number of the Politburo members feel that action should first be taken against the church, such action anticipated to take one year; and after this seriously tackle the farm collectivization problem. The confiscated church property is to be the first to be collectivized.

d) Arrests of clergymen is going on throughout the country. During the past two weeks approximately 100 priests and monks have been arrested and are now undergoing interrogation. Among the latest arrests were Franciscan Monk TARTARA at the time of his return from Rome, Priest ZOLSZYNSKI of Karlowice in Lower Silicea, Monk KOCZLOWSKI of Krzyzowa, Michal NOWAK of Krzyslin. All were accused of anti-government activities in cooperation with underground groups.

e) The popular following of the Catholic press continues. Chief Editor of TYGODNIK POWSZECHNI, Father Jan PIOWARCZYK, was arrested with his associate Stefan KISIELEWSKI. The publication is Cardinal SAPIEHA's organ in Krakow. A third associate, STUDENTOWICZ, was also arrested. In making the arrests the UB accused them of attempting to flee abroad.

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3. Laws and Justice

A new law concerning the school organization became effective 1 September this year. The schools shall consist of eleven classes; of which the classes 1-7 are obligatory. The eleven classes would correspond roughly to our high school course.)

4. Culture and Religion

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a) In the larger cities courses are held in Marxist ideology for all doctors, lawyers, teachers, judges, etc. There is a scarcity of competent instructors of these courses--many have a minor education.

b) The loss of the National Library since 1939 has been very large. From 55,000 manuscripts only 2000 remain.

c) At Szczecin (Stettin) a medical academy was opened in September.

d) The schools of all types, at the beginning of the school year received a circular signed by the Ecclesiastical Minister SKRZESZEWSKI, stating as a requirement that each school child must be oriented for the battle against the reactionary elements.

5. Economic Life

a) Production of tractors in four factories is to be trebled from August of this year.

b) In Poland are still ca. 35,000 German POWs , practically all are employed in the coal mines.

c) The clothing industry has been united under a committee controlled by the State. It is said to be a measure in connection with the increased export to Russia.

d) Wroclaw (Breslau) includes now 275,000 inhabitants. The city is unbelievably dirty, as is the case of other cities of Western Poland.

e) In 1939 an average laborer earned 300 zloty per month as against 8000 at the present time. The present figure of 8000 zloty is now equivalent to ca. 75 pre-war zloty if calculated according to a price index.

f) The government has begun a campaign against quack medicine, which is increasing rapidly due to the shortage of doctors. There is ca. one doctor to each 3200 persons or 144 sq. klms.

g) A Polish delegation has gone to Czechoslovakia for the purpose of studying new housing developments in the area of the German-Czech border.

h) 15,000 cities are to be electrified. It is understood each community is to pay 2.5 million zlotys and each farmer 120,000 zlotys toward this objective.

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Commercial and Political Information on Poland, 20 Sept.-2 Oct. 1948

1. Poland

a) - There are signs of increased war-fever in all of Poland. Within Polish army circles there is direct conversation concerning the coming war against the American imperialism which is endangering their "Western border". There are signs of panic among the people, but especially in the western section, with the inhabitants of Stettin and other large cities fleeing into central Poland. The war scare is increased by stories given out by Russian troops and officers as well as German railroad employees. The Russian officers claim they only need five days to occupy all of Europe. The German railroad men state that this will be the right hour for Germany and the German people, with the aid of the Russians, to conquer Europe and rule over it. Relations between the German railroad men, who are mostly communists, and the Russian military are very good, as they are always helping each other to hoard food. However, the practice of hoarding is also well demonstrated by the civilian population, especially such items as preserves, flour and lard. The press does not reflect any of these happenings. The regime is constantly suppressing all freedom of speech and many persons are being arrested and being accused of spreading reactionary and fascistic propaganda. The Polish population views the war outlook with feelings which vacillate between fear and hope. In general they believe that war would be better than Sovietization which Poland feels is inevitable in the near future.

b) The opposition movement among the masses of PPS and other party members is still strongly opposed to the government's program, especially with regard to the collective farm policy. The weeding out of PPS members, including OSOBKA MORAWSKI has not helped the situation. Well informed Poles claim that countries abroad underestimate the meaning of this spontaneous movement, and the fact that just now Poland is faced with a wave of terror, especially the political element conspiring. Agents are sent to foreign lands with various missions in mind. Most of these agents chief duties consist of fraternizing among Polish refugees in order to gain sympathy for the regime. UB considers the Polish emigrants as an important factor for anti-communist propaganda in other countries, especially in view of their associations with the workers of these lands. Only a very small percent of the UB agents have other duties.

One believes that UB has probably received special Moscow orders in this regard. The Polish immigration group in the underground movement has been warned of these activities. Further information with regard to the above can be expected in the future.

2. Terror and Counter-Terror

(diocese)

a) Further arrests of priests is continuing, especially in Krakowstiftet. This action is regarded as a demonstration against Archbishop SAPIEHA. During the latter part of September in this section over 50 Catholic priests have been arrested, 32 of whom were district priests. Charges against them were not political, but were mostly on moral grounds.

b) In the city of Zgierz, near Lodz, an underground group raided the UB Commisar. During the raid five bombs were used and all their files were destroyed, in addition one UB officer and three privates were killed, five wounded. Two members of the raiders were killed but so far have not been identified.

c) In Sokalka, south of Bialystok, there have been incidents between the civil population and the communists.

d) In Stettin administrators of State goods have been accused of sabotage. The charges against them are the reduction of farm production and the death of 40% of the cattle.

3. Laws and Courts

Vice Minister of Justice, CHAJN has explained that the Polish punishment shall be completely changed to fit the new political scheme of things. A Judicial Commission has been called but as yet no names have been published. In the new procedure there will be new laws to protect the republic and democracy. It is understood in pre-war juridical circles that the new regulations will follow the pattern of Soviet Russia.

4. Culture and Religion

a) Vice Minister of the Board of Education SKRZESZEWSKI has on a recent tour stated that every school child should be taught the principals and policy of the present fight against the reactionary element.

b) The following ten new instructors have been announced for the University of Warsaw: Dr. S. KORWANOWA, Dr. LASKOWNIEKI, A. SOLTEN, P. NOWIEKI, K. HUMANIECKI, A. STRYSZAK, W. OSTROWSKI, R. TAUBENSZLAG, and GINTOWT-DZIEWALTOWSKI. The following have been named for Poznan University: W. KOWALENKO, I. MICHALSKI and J. MOWSZOWICZ.

c) According to information which leaked out from the Board of Education, the present geography books are criticized and shall be changed in the future to follow the Marxian teachings.

5. Economic Life

On July 1, 1948 the Polish merchant navy consisted of the following:

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1.	M-s Batory	14287 tons	18 knots	830 passengers	built 1936
2.	M/S Sobiski	11030 "	17 "	1154 "	" 1939
3.	S/S Jagiello	6133 "	16 "	1437 "	" 1939

Line traffic boats (Linjetrafikbåtar)

1.	S/S Kosciuszko	7763 tons	16 knots	built 1939
2.	S/S Kilinski	7612 tons	17 "	" 1944
3.	M/S Gen. Walter	4732 "	16 "	" 1934
4.	M/S Warynski	4742 "	16 "	" 1943
5.	S/S Lech	1568 "	11 "	" 1933
6.	S/S Lublin	1409 "	11 "	" 1932
7.	S/S Slask	1402 "	11 "	" 1932

The following boats are freighters

1.	S/S Pulawski	8267 tons	13 knots	built 1908
2.	S/S Bialystok	7173 "	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" 1942
3.	S/S Baltik	7001 "	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" 1942
4.	S/S Boryslaw	5977 "	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" 1942
5.	S/S Opole	2725 "	10 "	" 1944
6.	S/S Olsztyn	2725 "	12 "	" 1944
7.	M/S Lewant	1923 "	12 "	" 1930
8.	M/S Lechistan	1907 "	12 "	" 1929
9.	S/S Hel	1056 "	12 "	" 1935
10.	M/S Oksywie	768 "	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" 1938
11.	S/S Nissa	546 "	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" 1890

The following boats may be classified as tramp boats:

M/S Morska Wola, 3357 tons

M/S Stalowa Wola, 3133 tons


Steamboats:

Tobruk	7048 tons	Narwik	7031 tons
Kalisz	3300 "	Wisla	3108 "
Kolno	2487 "	Kolobrzeg	2369 "
Kutno	2183 "	Wilno	2018 "
Krakow	2018 "	Poznan	2107 "
Katowice	1993 "	Torun	1978 "
Narocz	1795 "	Lida	1387 "
Rataj	1021 "		

The above mentioned ships have a speed of less than 10 knots. In addition to the above mentioned the Polish navy has the following three tankers, M/S Karpaty, 6487 tons, M/S Rysy, 1700 tons, M/S Turnia, 634 tons; a coast traffic fleet of 10 motor-sail ships and 30 steam trawlers used for fishing plus 44 tow-boats.

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Polish Collective Farming Prospects

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1. Collective farming depends to a considerable extent on the development of tractor power. According to Polish experience, an American tractor of 30 hp. operating a 10 hour working day on a fairly good field will plough two hectares per day on an average. However, on a more difficult field the result will be only 1.5 hectares. During a good year it is possible to operate a tractor in Poland about 150 days per year, thus covering 300 hectares. Poland's cultivated land at the present time is about 16.5 million hectares. In order to work this land with motorized power 55,000 good tractors are needed. In consideration of necessary repairs, etc., this number should be increased to some 70-75,000 machines, especially in view of the low technical standards of Poland. Although Poland's output of tractors amounts to 5-600 machines a year, there are presently 5,000 tractors in the country. } plan!
2. In reality the problem of mechanized farming in Poland is still more difficult than mentioned above. At the present time there is a shortage of tractor technicians. About 30% of the ground is very difficult to work. There are only a few reserve parts available for the American tractors, and none at all for the German machines. Between 25 and 40 liters of petrol are used per hectare, depending on the condition of the soil. It has been estimated that in order to plough all the workable soil one would need 500 million liters of petrol per year. This figure is about four times as much as Poland can obtain at the present time. The above mentioned figures illustrate the problem which "motorized farming" faces. It will probably continue to be such for the next ten years. In view of the above, however, it can easily be seen what collective farming would mean from a purely economic standpoint. The government is well aware of the situation and therefore the authorities in charge have decided to use motorized vehicles for only 33% of the land during the first five years. In order to put this plan into operation it is estimated that 18-25,000 tractors will be necessary. In general, farm conditions were much better before the war than they are now. Formerly there would be about 15 horses to every 100 hectares. At present there are only ten and even these are of a poor quality. The chances are very slight that Poland will be able to manufacture the needed quantity of tractors and the Polish Farm Division's economic status is such that it will be difficult to import machines.

3. [redacted] there is much scepticism as to the practical outlook for collective farming and motorized farm vehicles in Poland. At the present time there seems to be very little chance that tractors can be imported from the Soviet Union and it is less likely that the United States will sell tractors for Poland's Sovietization.
4. Therefore, it would appear that the whole propaganda for "collective farming" is more of a political than an economic nature. It is obvious that should tractors be successfully introduced in Poland, it would automatically create a surplus of farm labor. According to present statistics, the theory of mechanized farming will free one farm worker on every 10 hectares. Hence if Polish farming were completely mechanized, a surplus pool of 1.6 million individuals would result. (In view of the above mentioned 33% of the land--almost 500,000 workers would be idle)
5. Hence within "Free Polish" circles there is much speculation as to what will be done with the idle and unqualified masses in the near future. There seems to be no possibility for this group to fit into industry. Inasmuch as the government is believed to be well aware of this situation, there is general speculation as to whether the authorities may be planning secret transportation of these surplus individuals to Russian industrial centers. It is commonly known that there is a great shortage of workers within Russian industry, and the present five year plan's success depends solely on additional help.
6. It seems strange, however, that Russia is presently bringing pressure to bear on the Polish government for a "collective farming" program when one realizes that from an economic point of view it would not be a satisfactory arrangement.
7. It is understood however that the various recent political "twists" with regard to Poland are very deep and have an extensive background.

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Economic and Political Information on Poland

Poland

I. Political:

1. The expurgation which has been taking place within the higher circles of the PPR and PPS now appears to have quieted down a little and to have switched to the less important members of the party. Mr. ZAMBROWSKI, Politbureau member, instigated a special purge among the agrarians who joined the PPR just for the convenience and help derived therefrom. On orders from the PPR Central Committee a special committee has been organized to carry out the necessary procedures against unreliable members, especially against "the Kulakerna" (owners of land exceeding 10 ha).
Kulaks
2. Other political parties - communist satellites - have also called together their Central Council (Rada Naczelna, highest party organ) and are likewise cleaning house. The SL Party (Stronnictwo Ludowe - Agrarian Party - which at one time was the opposition party to MIKLAJCZYK's PSL Agrarian Party) also had a Council Congress in the early part of October. The Party Chairman, Jozef PUTEK, who has been known for his opposition leadership to the PILSUDSKI regime and for his anti-clergy views, was expelled from the party on grounds of "cooperation with illegal clergy circles". He was postmaster in 1946-48. Others who were expelled from Central Council membership were *Riksdagmen* BACZEWSKI, KULISIEWICZ, BANAT, WRONA, and three other well known party members, *sejm members* BLACHA, JUREK and SACILOWSKI. Riksdag Chairman Wladyslaw KOWALSKI, well-known agrarian communist, was elected chairman of the SL Party.
3. During the PSL's Central Council meeting Wladyslaw KIBERNIK, a faithful communist supporter after MIKOLAJCZYK's escape, was forced to resign and Board of Education Minister WYCECH (dependable) was elected in his place.
4. The above mentioned house cleaning in both Agrarian parties is a preliminary step for future strength. Because of this, there will be a communist Agrarian party and a subordinating one.
5. In the near future the SD (Stronnictwo Demokratyczne-Demokratiska Party) will also have a Congress and a house cleaning similar to the other parties. However this party has so few members that it is actually of very little importance.

6. The present purges have caused great unhappiness among many Poles who believed that within the frame of communism they could keep a certain degree of independence from Moscow and even work along the present line for Polish prosperity. Their sadness is greatest since the flight of MIKOLAJCZYK from Poland.
7. The government itself tries to achieve some form of cooperation between the purged communist members and the Moscow faithfuls. President BIERUT has recently named Zenon KLISZKO as Minister of Justice. KLISZKO and GOMULKA were the first "rightists" and purged communists accused. KLISZKO, among other things, was accused of having influenced GOMULKA. The purged Socialist SZWALBE was permitted to go to the United States as a member of a delegation.
8. Every RKU (Rejonowa Komenda Uzupełnień) province recruiting office receives a comparatively large number of volunteers for the struggle against Tito. In return for their willingness they receive a certain sum of money immediately after their enlistment. They also get secret orders which are kept in readiness. After their enlistment they are permitted to return home, but no uniforms are worn. The reason for the large number of volunteers is believed due to the money they receive plus the fact that they hope this may be their means of escaping the country.
9. Commencing the 1st of September the farmers have been requested to give a complete inventory of their livestock. So far this program has completely failed. Most of the farmers have either hidden or butchered their cattle instead of reporting to the authorities. Eggs, butter and general meat deliveries have also been cut considerably. Agrarian members realize that the regime lacks the practical methods necessary for carrying out their collective farming program and therefore are planning a stubborn resistance in this respect.
10. The Polish-Russian border is hermetically closed and lately an electrified barbed wire barricade which gives an alarm when touched has been observed.

II. The Law and Courts:

The disposition of all technical personnel in government industry has become classified as "Department Cadre" under Ministry of Commerce. No engineer can freely change his place of employment within government owned industry.

III. Terror and Counter-Terror:

1. General Aleksander LACHOWSKI, leader of the Youth Military Training was murdered by the underground movement.
2. When a well known communist agrarian named Kazimierz PRODOWSKI was murdered in the Plonsk district, the Polish press attributed it to resistance activity against the collective farming program. In several other places there were less prominent PPR personalities either murdered or ill treated.

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3. In the section of Rzeszow a member of the WIN organization by the name of Tadeusz PLESNIAK has been sentenced to death. Two other members, Wladyslaw NYCZ and Wladyslawa INGLOT, received sentences of seven years each.

IV. Culture and Religion:

Three priests, JASZENICA, PIWOWARCZYK and KISIELEWSKI, staff members of the publication "Tygodnik Powszechny" (official organ for Krakow), Cardinal SAPIEHA and KACZYNSKI, director for "Tygodnik Warszawski" (organ for Cardinal HLOND) were freed. Although the publications were allowed to be circulated again, the former editors were replaced. It has been noticed, however, that there has been a more or less critical official opinion against the church and the Pope, but no definite attack. According to official reports from the Vatican there are 100 Catholic priests and over 500 Catholic leaders imprisoned. The most recent arrest was that of Father PRZYLOCKI in Gdansk-Wrzeszcz.

V. Economic Life:

1. In conjunction with the completion of the ^{3-year} ~~5-year~~ plan (1949) Poland is planning a new 6 year arrangement. The ~~former~~ plan was intended to mend the then existing production breakdown and to start production of indispensable consumer goods. The new six year plan, however, is expected to direct its full attention to investments for the manufacture of fabrics, etc. It is understood that considerable capital is needed--possibly several million dollars, but there has been no mention of how this sum is to be acquired.
2. Poland's national income amounts to about 16 million (pre-war) zloty--3.3 million dollars.
3. According to the English press, uranium mines have been discovered in Krzyzatka in the vicinity of Jelenia Gora, Niederschlesien. The mines are being exploited by Russian specialists and at the present time they are being worked by 100 Russian engineers and 5,000 laborers. According to Professor IVANOV, a Polish specialist and leader for the project at Krzyzatka, the uranium percentage was quite low in the upper layers but increased considerably in the lower areas.
4. The budget in Poland can expect no help from private means which will be liquated in the near future. Mr. MINC, the Minister of Commerce, openly states that the only business men which will be tolerated are those work for themselves and have no employees other than members of their families.
5. It has become known through government circles that a large industry center for the production of synthetic rubber is to be built between the Wisla and Warta rivers. A Polish delegation under the leadership of an engineer by the name of CYBULSKI is going to Skopau, Germany, to study various production methods. A central laboratory for rubber production is being organized in Warsaw, located at Kamionkowagatan,

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under the leadership of Engineer Dr. ZIELINSKA. Engineer SWIDEREK is
is to head the buying of the necessary machines [REDACTED]
some of which has already been received. At the present time there
are 17 rubber factories in Poland. Production, however, is insignifi-
cant.

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6. It has been observed that Poland has discovered a very active medium
against the Colorado beetle in the form of another parasite which des-
troys the beetle.

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